ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

UNION BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

BIG CREEK CHURCH, PICKENS COUNTY, ALA.,

October 12th, 13th, 14th, 1889.

Elder S. Hildreth, Moderator.
Elder H. B. Chappelle, Clerk.

The next session will be held with the Prairie Church, Greene County, Ala commencing on Saturday before the 2nd Sabbath in October, 1890.

CARROLLTON:

PRINTED AT THE WEST ALABAMIAN JOB OFFICE,

BY A. HENRY.

1889.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2011 with funding from
LYRASIS Members and Sloan Foundation

http://www.archive.org/details/minutesoffiftyfo00unio

MINUTES.

The Fifty-Fourth Annual Session of the Union Baptist Association was held with Big Creek Baptist church, Pickens' county, Ala., commencing Saturday, October 12, 1889. At 10 o'clock a. m. the Moderator, Elder S. Hildreth, called the body to order, and the session was opened with prayer.

Brethren W. G. Robertson and J. H. Stinson were requested to read the letters from the churches, and the names of delegates were enrolled, as follows:

FIRST DISTRICT.

Bethlehem—D O Baird,* T B Branch,* J M Robertson.* Liberty—J W Harris,* J R Smith, J F Hodge.* Mt. Pleasant—Joshua Hall, W B Hicks,* J D Holman.* Fellowship—J C B Johnson,* Lonnie Pearson, Jones Pearson. Corinth—F R Gallant,* E Mayfield, T L Mills. Flat Woods—B F Plowman,* J B Moss* N A Lewis.* Spring Hill, Lamar Co.—O P Wooten, A J Richardson, Sam'l. Brewton.* Millport—A P Bobbit. G S Keenum, W C Williams.* Kennedy—W T Walker, Elijah Howell, F W Stokes* New Salem—J A Estes,* J W Harper,* J H Doughty.*

SECOND DISTRICT.

McBee—J P Simpson,* W M Rhodes,* C A Cox.* Arbor Spring—J O Abrams,* W R Carpenter,* W C Branch.* Mineral Spring—Wm. Manning, J W Cox, L C Abrams.* Oak Ridge—H L Williams*, W H Copeland,* P G Coleman.* Spring Hill, Pickens—J P Lee, J H Stinson, C D Harper.* Hebron—J F Fason,* B E Whitaker, J A Shepherd.* Big Creek—H B Chappelle, Jr., U E Allen, J H Jordan. Cross Roads—W D Allen,* J H Taylor, J Adams.*

THIRD DISTRICT.

Pickensville—J J Ball, J R Long,* W O Kelsey. Carrollton—L M Stone, M L Stansel, W G Robertson. Ebenezer—C W Free, J A Hollingsworth, B F Noland. Unity—J E Corder, J W Hanson, James Phillips. Enon—M. G. Lofton, A A Ball, J D Ball. Mt. Zion—Thomas Locke, J B Colvin,* John Sherrod.* Prairie—R D Levell, M B Taylor, T W Gay*

FOURTH DISTRICT.

Forest—W H Teer, M C Hudgins, Jno. W Upchurch,* Shiloh—Wm. Franklin, W C McCracken.* Chalcedony—J D Hamner,* J S Marcum, J R Strickland.* Nazareth—J J Marlow,* R Marlow. Beulah—S S Thornton, C W Thornton, J T Smith.* Bethel—Wm. Barton, J A Stewart, J P Park. New Hope—J M Smith, J P Barnett, J W Robertson.* Zion—J H Pate, T M Pate, J M Pate.* Grant's Creek—H G Mitchell, N G Holly,* R H Foster.*

The Association was organized by the re-election of Elder S. Hildreth Moderator, and H. B. Chappelle Clerk.

On motion, adopted order of business as prepared by committee.

1. The Introductory Sermon was preached by the appointee, Eld. J. G. Thornton.

2. Received correspondence: From the Tuscaloosa Association, letter and package of Minutes. From the Columbus, ———. From the Bigbee, ———.

3. Returned correspondence: To the Tuscaloosa—To convene with the Northport church Tuesday before the 2nd Sabbath in

September, 1890—E. Mayfield, H. G. Mitchell, T. M. Pate, J. M. Smith, R. Marlow, J. P. Park. To the Columbus—To convene with the Brooksville church Friday before the 2nd Sabbath in September, 1890—Eld. J. P. Lee, H. B. Chappelle. To the Bigbee—To convene with the ——— church ——— S. S. Thornton, R. D. Levell.

4. Invited visiting brethren to seats.

5. Miscellaneous business. A letter was read from Elder J. C. Foster in regard to the dearth of Ministers in the Association, and on motion special prayer was offered for more laborers in the vineyard of the Lord by Elder J. P. Lee, and, on motion, the following resolution was adopted: Resolved—That each church in the Association meet on their regular days of worship in May, 1890, in special service, praying the Lord of the harvest for more laborers, for the harvest is truly great and the laborers are few.

6. Report of Bible and Colportage Work read, and adopted.

This is an important branch of the work in which our State Mission Board is engaged, which, if properly and thoroughly worked up, would become a power in our State. An enlightened and intelligent church membership will make the Baptists of this country the leading and most influential class in the world. We are under solemn obligations to God to carry the Gospel into all the world; and the glorious opportunities that are so rapidly opening up before us, require godly men and women, with minds enlightened by the word of God and souls and bodies consecrated to His service. The dissemination of the Bible and Gospel truth in every form among our people is, to our mind, the best means of attaining the end so devoutly desired by the children of God. By liberal contributions to this work we can largely increase the efficiency of Bible and Colportage work. W. G. Robertson, Chm.

7. Circular Letter, on motion, laid over for future action.

8. Report of District Meetings:

First District.—The next meeting to be held with Mt. Pleasant church Friday before the 4th Sunday in July, 1890. The Introductory Sermon to be preached by Elder J. A. Estes; alternate, Eld. J. S. Shirley. The Missionary Sermon by Eld. J. S. Wooten; alternate, Eld. D. O. Baird. *Queries:*—1. What did the Apostle mean when he said, It is a shame for women to speak in public? 2. What time did the law of Grace begin?

Second District.—The next annual meeting will be held with Hebron church Saturday before the 1st Sabbath in August, 1890. Introductory Sermon by Elder H. B. Chappelle; alternate, Elder J. M. Land. *Queries*—1. What ought to be done with a member of the church who is financially able to, but fails or refuses to assist in the support of his pastor? 2. Has not the time come when men will not stand sound doctrine? *Essay*—Will the second advent of Christ be pre or post millinnial? Read by Elder M. G. Lofton.

Third District.—The next meeting will be held with Ebenezer church Saturday before the 5th Sabbath in June, 1890. Introductory Sermon, at 9 o'clock a. m., by Elder M. G. Lofton. Missionary Sermon by Elder J. H. Curry. *Quiries*—Is the church

of the present day spiritually minded? Opened by deacon W. C. Mayes. 2. What are the duties of church members to each other? Opened by deacon W. G. Robertson. 3. What has and will be accomplished by State Missions? Opened by brother E. P. Ezell. 4. Do Baptists teach their distinctive doctrines as faithfully as they ought? Opened by brother D. C. Hodo. *Essays*—1. The church outlook. Read by brother M. B. Curry. 2. The Lord loveth a cheerful giver. Read by brother W. H. Owings. 3. Importance of church discipline. Read by deacon J. A. Atteberry. 4. Covetousness. Read by brother John White. 5. Duty and benefit of family prayer. Read by brother J. D. Stapp.

Fourth District.—The next meeting will be held with Shiloh church Friday before the 4th Sabbath in August, 1890. Introductory Sermon by Elder J. D. Hamner; alternate, J. L. Ray. Missionary Sermon by Elder J. C. Foster. *Queries*—1. Why should we encourage an educated Ministry? Opened by brethren R. D. Lucius and J. P. Barnett. 2. Is giving to Missions a means of Grace, and if so, what should the church do with those members who fail to give? Opened by brethren A. P. Smith and J. M. Smith. 3. What are the benefits to a church of a well organized prayer meeting? Opened by brethen C. W. Thornton and Philip Noland. *Essay*—The importance of a religious newspaper in each family. Read by brother R. H. Foster.

9. The Committee on Education made no report, and, on motion, brother M. L. Stansel was requested to address the Association on this important subject.

10. Appointed following committees:

On Religious Exercises—J J Ball, F R Gallant, with Pastor and Deacons of Big Creek church.

On Aged and Infirm Ministers—J P Barnett, B. F. Noland, Jno. Pearson.

On Publication—J W Cox, C W Free, E Mayfield.

On Nominations—J W Hanson, W H Copeland, R D Levell.

On Apportionment of the Churches—H B Chappelle, Jr., Joshua Hall, J M Smith, J E Corder.

On Correspondence—W P Peden, W B Hicks, J T Smith.

On Documents—J H Estes, J P Lee, E Howell.

On Deceased Deacons—J G Thornton, W H Teer, Wm. Manning.

On Finance—J H Stinson, W O Kelsey.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Bible and Colportage Work—W G Robertson, T H Sanders, W M Rhodes.

On Sabbath Schools—J T Smith, A A Ball, P G Coleman.

On Temperance—M L Stansel, J A Stewart, J B Moss.

On Education—R H Foster, D O Baird, T M Pate.

On Missions—M G Lofton, H G Mitchel, J P Park.

Church Building—W C Mayes, S S Thornton, Thomas Lock.

Order of Business—W H Owings, Lacey Williams.

11. No report of Committee on Church Building.

Adjourned. Prayer by Elder D. O. Baird.

SUNDAY.

Association met pursuant to adjournment. Devotional exercises by brethren Purser, Hare and Thornton.

On motion, Dr. D. I. Purser, financial agent of Howard College, and Eld. C. W. Hare, of *Alabama Baptist*, were invited to seats.

12. Report of Committee on Missions, adopted:

Your Committee on Missions beg leave to submit the following report: The work is divided into Foreign, Home and State Missions, directed by boards of managers, composed of our wisest and best brethren, who receive no pay for their labors, all under the control of the S. B. Convention.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

This Board is located at Richmond, Va., with Rev. H. A. Tupper as corresponding secretary, and Rev T. P. Bell assistant secretary. The fields occupied are Mexico, Africa, Brazil, China, Italy and Japan In Mexico we have 18 stations and 29 men and women employed; in Africa, 5 stations and 24 missionaries and active assistants; in Brazil, 5 stations and 16 preachers and teachers; in China, 7 missions and 62 workers employed; in Italy and other European countries, 16 stations and 16 missionaries; in Japan, which we have recently occupied and have sent brothers McCollum and Brunson and their wives to take charge, 36 new missionaries have been appointed, a large number baptized, and in the aggregate $99,023.75 collected for the work.

HOME MISSIONS.

This Board is located at Atlanta, Ga., with Rev. I. T. Tichenor as corresponding secretary and Rev. J. Wm. Jones as assistant secretary, and has charge of the work in the Southern States and Cuba. During the past year there were employed 283 missionaries, who did 12,409 weeks of labor in the United States; and 20 missionaries in the the Island of Cuba, who performed 970 weeks' service, for which the sum of $85,543.98 was contributed.

STATE MISSIONS.

The Board is located at Marion, with Rev. W. B. Crumpton as secretary. The work of this Board is confined to the limits of Alabama, and during the past year has performed a large amount of work, amounting to 4,957 days, for which was expended about $8,000.

A host of consecrated men and women have been, and are now, engaged in the work of spreading the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ in the world. Brethren, our privileges are commensurate with the opportunities presented us for fulfilling the command of the Master. Let us all come up fully to the duty imposed, and it will not be long before we shall see the glory of the Lord filling the earth as the waters do the sea. The cry comes up from the East, West, North and South, come over and help us. We again ask our pastors to keep the churches informed and educate them in the grace of giving. J. A. GOREE, Chm.

Committee on Religious Exercises reported, that Elder D. O. Baird would now preach the Missionary sermon in the church, and at the same time Dr. D. I. Purser would preach at the stand. Adjourned for preaching.

EVENING SESSION.

The Association met; prayer by Elders. Wm. Ashcraft and H. B. Chappelle.

13. Report of committee on Sabbath Schools, read and adopted:

The Sabbath School work is one that should be near and dear to every christian heart. Here we find a place for every class of christian workers, for in it all can do something for the Master. Indeed so intimately is this work connected with the church that we cannot afford to dispense with it. It requires but a casual observation to note the vast amount of good that has been accomplished by this agency. The work in our bounds is in a flourishing condition, but there is still room for improvement. We urge upon all the churches the necessity of a well organized school in their midst, and that special attention be given to this branch of church work S. S. THORNTON, Chm.

Adjourned; prayer by Elder C. W. Hare.

MONDAY.

9 A. M.—The Association was opened with prayer by brethren U. E. Allen, J. J. Ball and J. P. Lee.

Report on Temperance, and pending its discussion Dr. D. I. Purser presented the claims of Howard College to the Baptists of Alabama. Secured in cash and notes $1,100 for building the college; after which report was adopted.

On motion, adjourned till 1:30 p. m.

EVENING SESSION.

1:30 P. M.—The Association was opened with prayer by Elder M. G. Lofton.

14. Report of Evangelist and Executive Board, adopted.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

We have endeavored, as best we could, to carry out the wishes of the Association in supplying the destitution within our bounds. We have aided Cross Roads to the extent of thirty dollars in supporting their pastor; and appropriated funds for the purpose of aiding others, but no demand has been made.

We employed Elder Wm. Ashcraft as general Evangelist, who entered upon his work the 8th day of July, and who has given his whole time to visiting and preaching to the churches, for three months. From the reports we have had he has been heartily received and had the co-operation of the churches, He has preached the doctrines of our Lord with great power, which, by the grace of God and help of the Spirit, will open the eyes of sinners, enabling them to lay hold on eternal life, and strengthen the churches in the faith of the Gospel. His report is appended herewith, to which your attention is specially directed. We believe the true method, and that at which we have been aiming, is to aid our weak churches in sustaining their pastors, and thus strengthen and make them more efficient in the work of the Master. Our work should be done directly through the State Mission Board, and liberal contributions made for the support of our Mission work.

U. E. ALLEN, Chm Ex. Com.

Report of the Treasurer of the Executive Committee of the Union Baptist Association for 1889.

CHURCHES.	State Missions.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Ministerial Education.	Indigent Ministers.	Bible and Colportage	Church Building.	Total.
Bethlehem	5.00	2.50	2.50	1.50	.33	.34	.33	12 50
Liberty	5.00	2.50	2.50	1.50	.33	.34	.33	12.50
Mount Pleasant	4.00	2.00	2.00	1.00	.30	.35	.35	10
Fellowship	4.00	2.00	2.00	1.00	.30	.35	.35	10.
Corinth	6.00	3.00	3.00	2.00	.25	.25	.75	15 25
Flat Woods	2.00	1.00	1.00	.75	.25	.25	.25	5 50
Spring Hill, Lamar Co.	4.00	1.50	2.00	1.50	.25	.25	.50	10
Millport	2.00	2.00						4.
Kennedy	4.00	1.50	2.00	1.50	.25	.25	.50	10
New Salem	1.00	2.00	2.00					5
Mc Bee	2.00	1.00	1.00	.75	.25	.25	.50	5 75
Arbor Springs	1.00	.50	.50	.35				2 35
Mineral Springs	10.00	.50	.50	.25	.25	.50		12.00
South Carolina	2.00	.75	1.00	.50	.25	.25	.25	5 00
Oak Ridge	6.50							6 50
Spring Hill, Pickens Co.	6.00	2.50	3.00	1.00	.25	.25	.50	13 50
Hebron	7.50			5.00				12 50
Big Creek	4.00	1.50	2.00	1.50	.25	.25.	.50	10 00
Cross Roads	1.00	.50	.60					2 10
Pickensville	22.00			8.05				30.05
Carrollton	23.80	7.00	8.00	8.00	.50	.50	2-20	50.
Ebenezer	8.00							8.
Unity	11.50	1.00	1.00	1.50				15
Enon	6.00	2.00	3.00	6.10	.25	.25	1.15	18.75
Mount Zion	5.50	.75	1.00	1.00	.25		.55	9 05
Prairie	2.15	2.80	.30					5 25
Forest	4.50	1.50	2.00	1.50	.25	.25	.75	10 75
Shiloh	2.00	1.00	1.00	1.05				5 05
Chalcedony	2.00	.50	.75	1.00	.25		.50	5 00
Nazareth	1.00	.50	.50					2 00
Beulah	20.00	5.00	10.00	5.00	.50	1 00	3.50	45
Bethel	20.00	5.00	10.00	5.00	.50	1·00	3.50	45
New Hope	8.00	3.00	5.00	2.00	.50	.50	1.00	20
Zion	2.50	.50	1.00	.50		.25	.25	5.
Grant's Creek	13.65	15.55	22.00	10.40				61 60
Second District	2.00	1.00	1.50	.80				5 30
Third District			9.95					9 95
S. S. Convention			1.45					1 45
Public Collection	20.00	10.00	15.00	7.05				52 05
" "					17.50			17 50
W G Robertson		5.00	5.00	4.53				14 53
U E Allen		1.00	1.00	1.00		1 00		4
Total	251 60	90.35	127 05	84.58	24.01	8.63	18.51	604 73

The above includes amounts collected by the Treasurer from the Finance Committee, and sent direct to the Boards, by some of the churches. In cases where the churches did not designate the objects, the funds have been appropriated to the various Boards as we deemed best.

NOTE: Add to above aggregate, $2 for Howard College and $13 96 for Robert Carson, (blind).

RECAPITULATION.

To balance on hand last report—Gen. Fund		$ 61 68
To Amount from clerk, balance 1888	$ 11 70	
" " " Treasurer Union Association, 1889	273 75	
" " " " collection, Indigent Ministers	17 50	
" " " " for Robert Carson, blind	13 96	
" " Collected by Treasurer Executive Committee	303 78	
		620 69
		$682 37

CR.

By paid State Missions, W. B. Crumpton, etc	$135 00	
" " " " Elder Wm. Ashcraft, Evangelist	120 00	
" " " " Elder J. P. Lee, Cross Roads	30 00	
" " Foreign "	127 05	
" " Home "	90 35	
" " Ministerial Education	84 58	
" " Indigent Ministers, R. B. Wilkins	17 50	
" " " " State Board	6 51	
" " Bible Work	8 63	
" " Howard College	2 00	
" " Robert Carson, blind	13 96	
" " Church Building	18 51	
" " 500 copies Foreign Mission Journal	10 00	
" " 100 blank letters and postage	2 75	
" " Circulars, postage and stationery	10 30	
		677 14
Balance on hand		$ 5 23

W. G. ROBERTSON, Treas. Ex. Board.

REPORT OF EVANGELIST.

Your Evangelist has, under God's direction and blessings, performed to the best of his ability all the duties assigned to him, as follows: Sermons preached, 119; families visited, 147; prayers offered, 158; miles traveled, 687; collected on the field, $26.55. The churches contributing have been credited on their apportionment with the amounts paid me. We had, generally, a good average attendance, always good attention, and often a deep interest manifested, and we hope much and lasting good accomplished. May God speed the day when much more may be accomplished in this inviting field of labor, and that He may raise up the man to do the work. Fraternally submitted, WM. ASHCRAFT.

15. Report of Committee on Indigent Ministers, adopted:

Your committee would report that we find Elder R. B. Wilkins to be in the evening of his days and very infirm. His wife is also afflicted and nearing her eternal home. Brother Wilkins has done what he could in the Master's cause. We recommend a favorable consideration of brother Wilkins by this body. J. P. BARNETT, Chm.

The Association raised $17.50 in cash for brother Wilkins in accordance to above report.

16. Report on Publications, adopted:

Your committee would first recommend the Bible, as it is our only guide of faith and practice. We recommend the *Alabama Baptist* as the State organ of our denomination, which should be in every Baptist family in the State. We would recommend the *Foreign Mission Journal*, published at Richmond, Va The *Home Field* is a good denominational journal and should be encouraged by Baptists everywhere. *Kind Word* series of Sabbath School literature, the property of the Southern Baptist Convention

deserves our support and should be used and encouraged by pastors and superintendents of our churches and schools. We would impress it upon parents to look well to the books and papers that their children read, so that their young minds and hearts may not become contaminated with trashy periodicals. The American Baptist Publication Society, Philadelphia, is headquarters for Baptist books and other good reading.

C. W. FREE, Chm.

17. Report on Nominations, adopted:

The next introductory Sermon by Elder M. G. Lofton; alternate, Elder J. H. Curry. Missionary Sermon by Elder J. A. Estes; alternate, Elder J. P. Lee. The next Circular Letter to be written by brother D. C. Hodo, on Brotherly Love. The next session of the Union Baptist Association will be held with Prairie Baptist church, Greene county, Alabama, commencing Saturday before the second Sabbath in October, 1890.

J. W. HANSON, Chm.

18. Report on Apportionment of the churches was read, amended and adopted:

Bethlehem	$12 50	Amount brought forward	192 50
Liberty	12 50	Cross Roads	5 00
Mt. Pleasant	8 00	Pickensville	20 00
Millport	12 00	Carrollton	50 00
Flat Woods	6 00	Ebenezer	8 00
Fellowship	10 00	Unity	15 00
Corinth	12 50	Enon	20 00
Spring Hill, Lamar county	12 50	Mt. Zion	10 00
Kennedy	15 00	Prairie	12 00
New Salem	5 00	Forest	20 00
McBee	10 00	Shiloh	5 00
Arbor Spring	10 00	Chalcedony	5 00
Mineral Spring	12 00	Nazareth	3 00
South Carolina		Beulah	40 00
Oak Ridge	12 00	Bethel	45 00
Spring Hill, Pickens county	15 00	New Hope	15 00
Hebron	12 50	Zion	5 00
Big Creek	15 00	Grant's Creek	50 00
	192 50	Total	$520 50

H. B. CHAPPELLE, Jr., Chm.

19. Report of Committee on Documents adopted:

We have examined the letters from the churches, and find nothing claiming the special attention of this committee. Many of the churches have had good meetings, and much, we trust, has been done for our Divine Master

J. A. ESTES, Chm.

20. Report of Committee on Finance.

Your committee fraternally report that they have received from the churches, etc., as follows:

For General Mission Fund	$ 92 10	Amount brought forward	$180 00
" Home Missions	8 05	For State Missions	105 35
" Foreign Missions	4 30	" Ministerial Education	2 50
" Public Collection	52 05	" Minutes	59 50
" Associational purposes	23 50		
Total	$180 00	Total	$347 35

J. H. STINSON, Chm.

21. Committee on Deceased Deacons reported, and adopted.

Your Committee report: That since our last meeting our much loved brother, Deacon Nehemah Cobb, has been taken by death from our midst. He was one of our most efficient landmarks. He died near Beulah on

the 17th of December, 1888, the church which he joined by letter in February, 1849. In February, 1854, he was elected to the office of Deacon, in which office he fully discharged his duty until his death. Occasionally a citizen is taken from a community or a member from the church, that seems to leave a vacancy that cannot be filled. This it was in the death of brother Cobb. He was a peaceable, unassuming and working Deacon. He fully filled his office; by his earnest efforts and untiring zeal he always manifested for the support of his pastor, for the subject of missions at home and abroad, which was almost his daily thoughts. Brother Cobb was an humble and devoted christian, a loving husband and kind father. Surely we can say, "Mark the perfect man and behold the upright for the end of that man is peace."

We are also called upon to report the death of our dear brother, Phillip Noland. (No report.) J. G. THORNTON, Chm.

22. Called the roll and noted absentees.

23. Miscellaneous business. On motion $13.96 was raised in cash for Mr. Robert Carson, (blind) which was paid him.

On motion, the reading of the Circular Letter was dispensed with, and it was submitted to a committee, consisting of brethren L. M. Stone, M. L. Stansel, W. G. Robertson, for examination.

Report of Committee on Circular Letter:

We have carefully examined the Circular Letter, written by Eld. J. H. Curry, and recommend that it be adopted, and published in the Minutes. M. L. STANSEL, Chm.

On motion, the same Executive Committee was proposed for ensuing year, when brother W. G. Robertson asked to be excused as its duties were too great for his declining health, when the following executive committee was appointed:

The Moderator appointed the following Executive Board for the ensuing year, viz: Bethlehem, T B Branch; Liberty, John W Harris; Mt. Pleasant, W B Hicks; Fellowship, Benj. Pearson; Corinth, Jas. Mills, Jr.; Flat Woods, B F Plowman; Spring Hill, (L. C.) O E Wooten; Millport, W C Williams; Kennedy, S W Vice; McBee, W M Rhodes; Arbor Spring, J T Keating; New Salem, Elder J A Estes; Mineral Spring, J W Cox; South Carolina, J M Gentry; Oak Ridge, H L Williams; Spring Hill, (P. C.) C D Harper; Hebron, J A Goree; Cross Roads, W D Allen; Pickensville, W O Kelsey; Big Creek, U E Allen; Carrollton, M B Curry; Ebenezer, E H Noland; Unity, J E Corder; Enon, J W Atteberry; Mt. Zion, James Noland; Prairie, W C Mayes; Forest, John Upchurch; Shiloh, A P Smith; Chalcedony, J R Strickland; Nazareth, R Marlow; Beulah, S S Thornton; Bethel, J P Park; New Hope, J M Smith; Zion, T M Pate; Grant's Creek, R H Foster.

On motion, elected brother L. M Stone, M. L Stansel alternate, as delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention.

On motion, Resolved—That we extend our thanks to Big Creek church and citizens for the hospitality extended us during this session.

On motion the Clerk was instructed to superintend the printing and distribution of the Minutes, pay over the Mission fund to the Treasurer of the Executive Board, and retain the Association fund for his services.

On motion, adjourned. The parting hand was extended, and prayer was offered by Dr. D. I Purser. Thus closed another session of the Union Baptist Association.

H. B. CHAPPELLE, Clerk. S. HILDRETH, Moderator.

STATISTICS OF THE UNION BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

CHURCHES.	Baptized	Rec'd by Letter.	Dis. by L.	Restored	Exclud.	Dec'd.	Males.	Females	Total Members	Minutes.	Association.	Total.	MEETIN'S	PASTORS.	CHURCH CLERKS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.
Bethlehem	2	1	2	..	..	1	28	42	70	$ 2 00	.....	2 00	3	D. O. Baird	T. B Branch, Coalfire, Ala.
Liberty	2	3	5	1	..	1	36	67	103	2 00	1 00	3 00	4	W. J. Beaty	J. W. Harris, Reform, Ala.
Mt. Pleasant	2	..	2	..	3	1	14	25	39	1 30	.....	1 30	1	S. E. Hodge	W. B. Hicks, Byars
Fellowship	..	..	..	..	..	..	28	35	63	2 00	50	2 50	1	W. J. Beaty	R F Johnson, Reform, "
Corinth	16	..	3	1	1	1	36	45	81	1 55	50	1 05	4	E. S. Hodge	J. A. Mitchell, Sipsey T'ke
Flat Woods	..	..	2	1	..	1	20	34	54	1 00	50	1 50	3	J. H. M. Anders	B. F. Plowman, Temple.
Spring Hill, L	19	1	2	..	1	..	35	61	96	2 70	50	3 20	2	W. J. Beaty	L. H. Hendrix, Gentry,
Millport	..	2	..	..	..	..	12	9	21	2 00	1 00	3 00	3	.....	W. C. Williams, Millport.
Kennedy's Sta	2	4	4	..	..	..	19	25	44	1 00	1 00	2 00	3	C. Johnson	W. T. Walker, Kennedy
New Salem	..	2	..	..	..	..	8	13	21	1 00	50	1 50	4	J. A. Estes	J. H. Doughty, Reform
McBee Creek	1	..	1	..	..	..	15	18	33	1 50	.....	1 50	3	J W Beaty	W. M. Rhodes, McBee
Arbor Spring	2	6	4	4	..	..	30	38	68	1 50	50	2 00	2	D. O. Baird	W. J. McCrary, Reform
Mineral Spring	..	..	2	..	1	..	29	35	64	2 00	1 00	3 00	1	D. O. Baird	J. W. Cox, Providence, Ala
South Carolina	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....	.....	.....	..	.....	.....
Oak Ridge	..	..	1	..	..	..	7	16	23	50	.....	50	2	H. B. Chappelle	H. L. Williams, Lowndes
Spring Hill, P	..	..	..	..	2	..	12	33	45	1 00	1 00	2 00	4	M. G. Lofton	J. H. Stinson, Pickensville
Hebron	11	..	1	..	..	..	15	44	59	2 00	1 00	3 00	4	J. H. Curry	J. A. Pearson, Carrollton.
Big Creek	1	4	6	2	1	..	21	46	67	2 00	1 00	3 00	2	M. G. Lofton	W. P. Chappelle, Dillburgh
Cross Roads	..	1	4	1	1	..	10	29	39	1 00	50	1 50	1	J. P. Lee	A. Butler, Carrollton
Pickensville	..	..	1	..	..	1	9	20	29	2 00	1 00	3 00	1	J. H. Curry	J. E. McGee, Pickensville,
Carrollton	7	..	3	..	..	..	37	49	86	2 50	1 50	4 00	6	C. Johnson	L. M. Stone, Carrollton, Ala
Ebenezer	14	1	1	1	1	..	17	28	45	2 00	1 25	3 25	3	J. G. Thornton	J A Hollingsworth " "
Unity	4	..	..	..	..	1	15	35	50	2 00	50	2 50	2	J. H. Curry	W. P. Peden, Olney, Ala.
Enon	1	..	1	..	..	1	33	38	71	2 50	1 00	3 50	3	J. H. Curry	T. H. Sanders, Garden
Mt. Zion	12	3	..	..	..	1	18	26	44	1 30	.....	1 30	3	M. G. Lofton	Jas. Noland, Bethany
Prairie	7	..	..	..	..	1	22	32	54	2 00	50	2 50	2	J. G. Thornton	W. C. Mayes, West Greene
Forest	..	3	..	..	2	2	31	54	85	2 50	50	3 00	1	M. G. Lofton	.....
Shiloh	10	1	7	1	..	1	19	23	42	1 50	.....	1 50	4	J. L. Ray	J. C. Leavel
Chalcedony	5	9	1	..	..	..	35	39	74	1 25	25	1 50	2	J. D. Hamner	W. C. Lancaster, Romulus
Nazareth	..	..	3	..	..	..	6	7	13	50	.....	50	1	.....	R. Marlow, Romulus Ala.
Beulah	26	2	..	..	..	3	64	95	159	3 00	2 00	5 00	4	.....	E. H. Lamb, Union, Ala.
Bethel	13	2	10	4	..	1	90	99	189	3 00	1 00	4 00	6	.....	J. P. Park, Hickman, Ala.
New Hope	6	4	5	1	..	..	38	48	86	2 00	1 00	3 00	4	J. C. Foster	J. W. Robertson, Romulus.
Zion	..	..	6	..	..	2	7	12	19	1 00	50	1 50	..	J. D. Hamner	T. M Pate
Grant's Creek	19	4	7	3	1	3	53	94	147	3 00	2 00	5 00	6	J. C. Foster	R. H. Foster, Sylvan, Ala.
	..	63	82	20	22	21	869	1311	2183	60 10	23 50	83 60			

H. B. CHAPPELLE, in account with Union Baptist Association.

Oct. 14, 1889, To balance from 1888		$ 11 70
To cash from Committee on Finance		347 35
		$359 05
CR.		
By cash paid for printing Minutes	$ 50 00	
" " Executive Board	285 40	
" " Clerk for services	23 65	—359 05

CIRCULAR LETTER;

WRITTEN BY ELDER J. H. CURRY.

TO WHAT EXTENT SHOULD CHRISTIAN PEOPLE GIVE OF THEIR MEANS FOR THE SPREAD OF THE GOSPEL.

Christian Beneficence.

Benevolence and beneficence, though closely allied, are not identical. Beneficence is benevolence, in operation. To be beneficent is, to give whatever may contribute to alleviate the sorrows, to diminish the wants, or to increase the intelligence, purity and happiness of mankind. Benevolence is the tree; beneficence is the fruit which it bears. The mere act of giving, is not Christian beneficence. We may give munificently, and never be truly blessed. The Apostle Paul said, "Though I give all my goods to feed the poor, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing." "The Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." God cannot be deceived by professions or appearances; but knows clearly all the principles of human action. "All things are naked and open unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do." He "desires truth, in the inward parts." The most costly gifts is an abomination in His sight, except it be an offering of love.

Prodigality should not be confounded with christian beneficence They are no merely distinct, but opposing elements. Worldly men frequently spend their money freely and bountifully in the prosecution of political schemes—for the erection of theatres, or other places of amusement; but let not such vainly expect to reap the fruit of beneficence. They are prodigal, not beneficent. Others give, neither knowing nor caring whether the objects to which they contribute are pleasing to God, or profitable to man. They have no just appreciation of the responsibility it imposes upon them. They give their money with equal readiness to objects deserving and undeserving—to support a theatre or church—to encourage vice or virtue. True beneficence is discreet. She carefully husbands her resources, that she may impart most bountifully where her assistance is most needed. She comprehends within the range of her noble and self-denying efforts the whole human family. The world is her field of labor. Her sympathies spurn the restraints of clime and caste. As she has opportunity, she does good unto all men, especially to those of the household of faith.

She seeks for the ignorant, that she may instruct them—for the needy, that she may supply their wants—for the depraved, that she may exalt them—and for the disconsolate, that she comfort them. She is eyes to the blind, feet to the lame, a staff to the feeble, and a couch to the weary.

To What Extent Should We Give.

I. WE MUST GIVE LIBERALLY. The parsimonious can never enjoy the luxury of giving. It is written, "The liberal soul shall be made fat." "He who soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly, and he who soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully." "If there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not." "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver." "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof." These lands—these houses—this merchandise—

this money, which we so fondly call ours, are all the Lord's. If we willingly and liberally use them for His service and glory, we may expect His approbation and blessing; if not, His frown and curse.

2. We must give systematically. System is necessary to success in every calling of life—agricultural, commercial, or literary. It is peculiary important in acts of beneficence. If we contribute only when we are solicited to do so, we shall often fail to meet the claims of benevolence. "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him." Here the Apostle teaches "charity upon a plan." or what is called systematic benevolence. These early Christians were not to wait for an appeal from the Apostles before they took up a collection. There was a specified time for laying aside their contributions, and a definite basis for determining the amount. Principle and not impulse was the motive. It is urged, by some who have given much thought to this question, that we should make a deliberate comparison of our incomes with our necessary expenses, and statedly lay by a just proportion of the remainder for benevolent purposes. But all may not find it convenient to do this—to determine upon every First-day just what our income has been for the week; still, such an estimate as we have proposed might be made once a year, or once in six months, by every steward of God's money who is determined to fix upon a plan for methodical giving. How beautiful was Israel's response when they were commanded to build the tabernacle. They came with their offerings of gold, silver, brass, etc., every one whose heart stirred him up and every one whom his spirit made willing, until Moses said, "The people bring much more than enough." Let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him," Mark that little word "as." Let us measure our past Christian lives by this standard. Has our liberality tallied with our prosperity, or have we been giving to the Lord about the same amount each year and adding to our style of living as our income has increased? Christians everywhere, accept the theory of stewardship, but our practice falls far below it. A steward is not an owner. He is supposed to manage the affairs of another according to the will and interests of the proprietor.

If the directions we have been considering are the commands of our Master, shall we dare disobey them? Can we be honest befofe God if we use his money as though it was ours? When the Jews withheld the tithes and offerings that were designed for the support of the temple service, God said, "Ye are cursed with a curse, for ye have robbed Me, even this whole nation." Paul says of the Macedonian Christians: "They are willing of themselves, praying us, with much entreaty, to receive their gifts." In our day it is the reverse. Ministers, and others interested, must beseech men to give. There is no better investment for our money than to turn it into the coin and currency of the realm to which we hope to go. We live in an age where the missionary spirit is powerfully moving upon the hearts of Christians everywhere. It is truly the Spirit of the religion of the Bible. When the Apostles with the early deciples heard the command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature," they looked out upon a world of sin and rebellion to be conquered, and brought into subjection to Christ. But the world has changed in some respects since then. To-day the Christian religion moves outward from the centers of the world's power. Art, literature, philosophy, law, commerce, and even military powers are its allies, and either the world's highest civilization shall fail and the ages of darkness return, or the spread and triumph of this civilization shall bear the name of Jesus to every nation. Then, dear Christian, look out upon a field white unto the harvest. The doors of all heathen countries are open to the Christian missionary who, in obedience to the command of his divine Master, and in the Spirit of his Savior, goes to tell the sweet story of the cross. This fact coupled with the other, that there has been a wonderful increase of the resources of Christian nations for pushing the conquest of the Redeemer's kingdom at home and abroad, brings the Christian under greater obligations to "attempt great things for God.,,

SYNOPSIS OF THE PROCEEDINGS

OF THE TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION, HELD WITH PICKENSVILLE CHURCH, AUGUST 30TH–SEPTEMBER 1ST, 1889.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 11 A. M.

The Convention Sermon was preached by Elder B. F. Giles of Howard College, the appointee being absent.

2 P. M.—The Convention was called to order by the President, John H. Stinson, and, after devotional exercises, the letters from Sunday Schools were read and names of the delegates enrolled.

John H. Stinson was re-elected President and W. G. Robertson Secretary and Treasurer.

The program presented by the Committee was adopted and subsequent proceedings were conducted accordingly.

The usual committees were appointed, and visiting brethren invited to seats.

The discussion of Query No. 1—The duty of developing the Missionary spirit in our Sunday Schools—was an enjoyable occasion, and the brethren were made to feel to sit together in heavenly places.

8 P. M.—Preaching by Elder J. P. Lee.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 9 A. M.

Devotional exercises, conducted by the President. Essay No. 1—How symmetrical christian manhood is to be obtained—was read by brother John H Stinson and, after a profitable and pleasant discussion, was adopted and ordered published in the *Alabama Baptist*.

Query No 2—What is our people reading, and what kind of literature should be used in our Sunday Schools—was answered by Elder M. G. Lofton in an appropriate and well digested speech. Yellow back novels and unrealistic literature should be supplanted by the Bible and religious publications, together with books that will elevate the moral tone of society.

Query No. 3—What should be the measure of christian giving—was discusesd in a manner consonant with the teachings of the Bible.

2 P. M.—After devotional exercises, Essays prepared by Misses Bessie Willett and Annie Chambers, on the subjects as appointed were read, much to the pleasure of the convention.

The Committee on Temperance reported, which, as usual, elicited a warm, earnest discussion of that all-absorbing subject, setting forth the enormity of the evil of strong drink, and the duty of all christians in the premises.

The report of the Secretary and Treasurer was read and adopted. The report shows, that whilst, numerically, we are not so large as last year, yet the work is of a character better calculated to do permanent and lasting good.

The Committee on Finance reported $16.50 for Sabbath School work and $1.45 for Foreign Missions; and public collection on Sabbath $11.55.

Committee on Queries and Essays reported, as follows:

Query No. 1.—What is the best method of teaching? By W. G. Robertson.

No. 2.—Is it right for churches and Sunday Schools to give entertainments to raise money for church purposes? By Elder H. B. Chappelle and U. E. Allen.

No. 3.—The best means of developing the Missionary spirit, so as to reach the pocket. By Elder S. Hildreth.

Essay No. 1.—Obligations of parents toward the Sunday School. By Miss Sallie Hughes.

No. 2.—Is the giving of our substance a means of grace? By Miss Kate Smith.

The next session of the Convention to be held with Carrollton church, beginning Friday before the 4th Sunday in July, 1890: and Convention Sermon by Elder J. A. Estes; alternate, Elder J. P. Lee. Missionary Sermon by Elder W. J. Beaty.

SABBATH, SEPTEMBER 1.

Sabbath School exercises at 9 a. m. were conducted by brother W. G. Robertson, and Missionary Sermon at 11 a. m. by Elder John H. Curry.

A vote of thanks was tendered the Secretary for the discharge of the duties devolving upon him in the Sunday School work.

Hearty thanks to church and community for the hospitable manner in which the Convention was entertained.

Sung a hymn, extended the parting hand, after which the Convention adjourned.

W. G. ROBERTSON, Sec. JOHN H. STINSON, Pres.

STATISTICS OF THE SABBATH SCHOOL CONVENTION.

SCHOOLS.	Teachrs		Pupils		Total	SUPERINTEND'S	POST-OFFICES.
	Males	Females.	Males	Females			
Liberty	3	4	42	49	98	J W Harris	Reform, Alabama
Fellowship	3	2	33	31	69	Benj. Pearson	" "
Corinth	2	3	37	35	77	Jas A Mitchell	Sipsey Turnpike, Ala.
Spring Hill	2	2	31	33	68	O E Wooten	Gentry, Alabama.
Millport	2	2	12	13	29	R N Waldrop	Millport, "
Kennedy	2	1	22	18	43	S W Vice	Kennedy, "
Vandever	2	1	30	25	58	S W Vice	" "
New Salem	2	1	10	15	28	Elder J A Estes	Reform "
McBee	2	1	12	18	33	W M Rhodes	McBee, "
Arbor Spng	1	1	15	10	27	J A Wilkins	Coalfire, "
Spring Hill	1	2	16	13	32	C D Harper	Pickensville, "
Hebron	2	2	21	20	45	J A Pearson	Carrollton, "
Big Creek	1	2	11	13	27	J N Mullins	" "
Crs roads	1	2	5	12	20	T H Haynie	" "
Pickensv'le	2	2	16	23	43	J J Ball	Pickensville, "
Carrollton	3	6	45	32	86	W G Robertson	Carrollton, "
Ebenezer	3	1	14	19	37	J A Hollingsw'th	Carrollton, "
Olney	1	3	20	25	49	W P Peden	Bethany, "
Enon	3	2	31	23	59	J W Atteberry	Garden, "
Mt. Zion	1	1	9	20	31	James Noland	Bethany, "
Prairie	2	..	14	10	26	W C Mayes	West Grene, "
Forest	2	2	15	20	39	I Teer.	Benevola, "
Shiloh	2	2	14	16	34	A P Smith	Jena, "
Chalcedony	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Beulah	2	3	48	33	86	S S Thornton	Union, "
Bethel	3	2	20	30	55	R D Lucius.	Hickman, "
New Hope	2	..	15	15	32	J H Robertson	Romulus, "
Grant'sCrk	2	4	12	17	35	N G Holly	Foster's, "
Sylvan	1	7	28	23	59	R H Foster	Sylvan, "
Total	55	61	598	611	1325		

W. G. ROBERTSON, Secretary and Treasurer,

1889. *In account with S. S. Convention:*

Aug. 30.	To balance on hand last session	$17 07	
	" amount received from various sources	115 99	
	CR.		133 06
	By cash paid sundries		94 38
	Amount on hand		$38 68

NAMES OF BAPTIST MINISTERS

IN THIS ASSOCIATION WITH THEIR POST-OFFICES.

D. O. Baird,	Coalfire,	Pickens County,	Alabama.	
J. A. Estes,	"	"	"	"
R. B. Wilkins,	Reform.	"	"	"
H. B. Chappelle,	Dillburgh,	"	"	"
J. H. Curry,	Carrollton,	"	"	"
Wm. Ashcraft,	"	"	"	"
Conrad Johnson,	"	"	"	"
J. S. Wooten,	Gentry,	Lamar	"	"
J. R. Goodman,*	"	"	"	"
W. J. Beatty,	Kennedy,	"	"	"
J. W. Dunaway,	"	"	"	"
S. Hildreth,	Pickensv'le,	Pickens	"	"
J. M. Land,	"	"	"	"
J. P. Lee,	"	"	"	"
M. G. Lofton,	"	"	"	"
J. S. Shirley,	Raleigh,		"	"
J. G. Thornton,	Benevola,		"	"
J. C. Foster,	Tuscaloosa,	Tuscaloosa Co.,	"	
J. D. Hamner,	Romulus,		"	"
J. H. M. Anders,	"		"	"
Henry Hitt,*	"		"	"
J. L. Ray,	Knoxville,	Greene	"	"

Ordained Ministers 20

Licentiates 2